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To the Editors:

May I offer some data relevant to Dr. Hannah Arendt's *Reply to the Jewish Establishment* which appeared in your issue of January 20th?

Dr. Arendt quotes the old Jewish precept that it ought to be preferred to be killed oneself to delivering another Jew to the Gentiles to be killed. Indeed, it is fundamental to the whole Jewish *Weltanschauung* that no life is more valuable than any other. In the words of the Talmud: "What makes you think your blood is redder? Perhaps his blood is redder." (Pesanhim 25b.)

To question the behavior of the rabbinate in Europe, in this context, is more than justified. Those who are interested in a case-study how these lofty precepts were interpreted and applied in practice will be rewarded if they consult a book entitled "Pinkas Bendin," published in Israel some years ago both in Hebrew and Yiddish. They will find there records of actual discussions,

foolish." You show up his errors in fourteen columns, and he calls you his Boswell (some Dr. Johnson!) and begs for more. Like that Ephesian who burned down the temple of Artemis, one of the seven wonders of the world, so that his name—which escapes me—would go down in history, Tom Wolfe confuses publicity with achievement. And he appears to assume, with naive cynicism,